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CONTENTS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 6, 1922. Vol. 1. No. 15.

1. Lithuania: Where Autumn Brides Are the Fashion.
2. Constantinople: What Is Missing and What Remains.
3. Five Greatest Population Centers in the United States.
4. Bucharest: Paris of the East.
5. Sokols Fostered Czech "Spirit of '76."

Photograph by Frederick Simpich. *© National Geographic Society.*

SELLING CHICKENS AT A STREET MARKET IN BUCHAREST. (See Bulletin No. 4.)

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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Lithuania: Where Autumn Brides are the Fashion

LITHUANIA, the southernmost of the Baltic countries carved out of pre-war Russia, which recently seated herself at the family table of world nations, has just sent her first diplomatic representative to Washington.

This new extension of hands across the sea is especially interesting since many of the principles of its republican government were borrowed from America. An incident in this connection was the presentation this spring, by Lithuanians in America, of a "liberty bell" to the mother country in commemoration of the fourth anniversary of its independence. The bell is to be rung on all national holidays and days of important historical significance to the country.

Battlefield During World War

Over the present country of Lithuania, once the largest state in Europe, extending from the Black Sea to the Baltic, the armies of Germany and Russia crossed and recrossed during the World War. Germans often raided the country to capture cattle and the Russians counter-attacked to gain immediate results for the moral effect elsewhere.

These fair-haired and blue-eyed people, who claim that there are more than one million foreign-born Americans of Lithuanian extraction in our country, speak a language which is said by some philologists to be the oldest living language today. It resembles the primitive Sanskrit and is distinctly different from the Slavonic family, the Teutonic and the Latin. The conquering nations who ruled the territory from time to time have attempted to stamp out the native tongue by requiring the children to use textbooks and prayer-books written in the Cyrillic alphabet, but they have never been entirely successful.

The ancient capital of this area, which now is slightly in excess of the combined areas of New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, was Vilna, whose narrow and winding streets, stony pavements and horse-cars give it a quaint and almost medieval atmosphere. Though the seat of government now is Kovno many of the great events in Lithuanian history center around Vilna.

An Epic in Two Sentences

Vilna was founded at the junction of the Vilna and Vilayka rivers by Gedimin in 1322, and is connected by railway lines with Petrograd and through Warsaw with most of the capitals of Europe. When Napoleon passed through the city in 1812 on his way to Moscow the Lithuanian nobles crowded around him, as it was believed he would restore the old Lithuanian state. Near the city today there stands a stone which tells the tragic story simply: On one side it bears the words, "Napoleon Bonaparte passed this way in 1812 with 400,000 men." On the other side there is engraved these words: "Napoleon Bonaparte passed this way in 1812 with 9,000 men."

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SCENE IN A TURKISH BAZAAR. (See Bulletin No. 2.)

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Constantinople: What is Missing and What Remains

CONSTANTINOPLE—the Stamboul of the Turks—one of the world's greatest cities, former center of the civilized world, and a focal point of newspaper readers today, is the subject of the following bulletin extracted from a communication to The National Geographic Society by Solita Solano:

"Stamboul—home of Roman emperors, capital of magnificent sultans, scene of fabulous tales which every one has read—is now falling into decay upon its seven hills. Everything has an air of being second-rate and outworn. Acres laid bare by careless fires constitute one-fourth of the city's area, and the remainder is for the most part covered by unpainted, weather-stained houses with rotting window lattices above and small dirty shops beneath. Mosques and tombs are dusty and neglected.

Approach Like Artist's Dream

"Yet, in spite of all this, Stamboul retains its magic of a uniquely situated city, and from afar has still a beauty that is incomparable. It is seen at its best in that famous approach from the sea to the Golden Horn, in which is reflected, as in a bright mirror, the city of Constantine, of Justinian and Theodora, of Theodosius and Mohammed II, with an effect so unfamiliarly lovely that it is like an artist's dream in which minarets and great domes seem to float above the mist.

"Then, at close range, the picture fades and one becomes suddenly disenchanted, as if a once beautiful woman had dropped her veil and revealed the ravages of time.

"Practical modernity has left its mark everywhere, especially since the city's occupation by the Allies, and soon the pictorial appeal that now remains will be gone forever. It will be a clean, decent, civilized city—but no longer Constantinople.

Invaded by Modernism

"Already there are on all sides the changes due to western influence—trams, electric lights, telephones, unveiled women, and a new safe bridge. Gone are the brilliantly colored costumes, the groups of faceless women, the pariah street dogs, the Sultan's pompous ceremonies, the harems, the life in the palaces along the Bosporus. And, although the foreign ministers of Great Britain, France, and Italy agreed to restore the Turks to full authority in their capital, it is safe to assume that the magnificent misrule of the Sultans has come to an end.

"Galata and Pera are the European quarter, opposite Stamboul, where the representatives of foreign powers have long maintained their embassies and homes.

"Nowadays Pera's crooked streets are alive with Allied soldiers, refugees, relief workers, adventurers, peddlers, beggars, and a few tourists. Passports, unless one has business, are difficult to get, and tourists are rarely seen.

UMI

Land of Marshes and Forests

The three former Russian provinces, Vilna, Kovno, and Suvalki out of which most of the present state has been formed do not comprise prosperous looking country, when compared with that in the neighboring German and Polish lands farther south. Much of it is marshy and covered with forests. Indeed the forests are so extensive that they constitute one of the country's greatest natural resources. Agriculture is the chief industry, and a surplus of some products, such as timber, hides, and flax, that her neighbors need, is produced.

The swain in Lithuania, despite the turning of young men's fancies to thoughts of love in springtime, makes the fall of the year his courting season, because he must be married in the winter time. More than 90 per cent of Lithuanian weddings take place during the cold weather, for the wedding lasts for a week or more and time cannot be spared from the fields and farms when the planting and harvesting seasons come. Winter time is the time of festivities in this little country when Jack Frost turns every lake and marsh into a highway.

Bulletin No. 1, November 6, 1922.

Note to Teachers

Since both school and public libraries generally have bound volumes of The National Geographic Magazine it has been suggested that references to articles and pictures in The Geographic concerning topics treated in the bulletins would be helpful. Therefore references which may be of use for further study of the subjects, or for source material in project and problem assignments, are contained in the following partial bibliography extracted from "The Cumulative Index to the National Geographic Magazine." A limited supply of some copies may be ordered from The Society's offices at the prices named. Those numbers marked with an asterisk (*) are out of print.

United States: The Land of the Best. By Gilbert H. Grosvenor. Vol. XXIX, pp. 327-430, 71 illustrations in black and white, 33 ills. in color, 1 panorama, April, 1916. 25c.

A Mind's-Eye Map of America. By Franklin K. Lane. Vol. XXXVII, pp. 479-518, 25 illustrations in black and white, 8 ills. in color, June, 1920. 35c.

Geographic Names in the United States and Stories They Tell. By R. H. Whitbeck. Vol. XVI, pp. 100-104, March, 1905. (*)

Cities: New York—The Metropolis of Mankind. By William Joseph Showalter. Vol. XXXIV, pp. 1-49, 39 illustrations, July, 1918. 25c.

Chicago Today and Tomorrow: A City Whose Industries Have Changed the Food Status of the World and Transformed the Economic Situation of a Billion People. By William Joseph Showalter. Vol. XXXV, pp. 1-42, 28 illustrations, 1 page map, January, 1919. (*)

Constantinople: See references given in Geographic News Bulletin of October 30, 1922.

Czechoslovakia: Bohemia and the Czechs. By Ales Hrdlicka. Vol. XXXI, pp. 163-187, 18 illustrations, February, 1917. 25c.

Czechoslovakia Key-Land to Central Europe. By Maynard Owen Williams. Vol. XXXIX, pp. 111-156, 45 illustrations, 1 fourth-page map, February, 1921. 50c.

Lithuanians: The Races of Europe. By Edwin A. Grosvenor, L.H.D., LL.D. Vol. XXXIV, pp. 441-533. 62 illustrations, 2 page maps, 1 insert Map of the Races of Europe, December, 1918. (*)

Rumania: Rumania and Its Rubicon. By John Oliver La Gorce. Vol. XXX, pp. 185-202, 11 illustrations, September, 1916. 25c.

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Five Greatest Population Centers in the United States

WHAT are the five most populous "urban communities" in the United States?

The question sounds stilted, but the term refers to something entirely different from "the five largest cities." For some purposes it is more useful to know where the greatest numbers of city dwellers are gathered together than to know how many live inside arbitrary political divisions.

"Two Cities" Rank Fourth

If the term "cities" is used loosely, the United States is in the strange position of having two that rank fourth and two that are fifth in size, although these communities are of different magnitude. The mix-up is due to that artificial thing, the city limit. People in establshing their homes have shown a fine disregard for these lines—except as prompted by considerations of taxation—and have built on either side and even astride them. There are many places where city boundary lines run directly through blocks or along busy streets, leaving outside regions as populous or more populous than those included. Yet when "the population of the city" is being ascertained, only the noses inside the imaginary line are counted.

To clear up the difficulty and bring out the really important fact—where the greatest concentration of city-dwelling populations are to be found—the United States Census has gathered statistics not only for city political divisions but also for "metropolitan districts." These latter include the entire urban communities made up of the big cities inside their political lines and also the city districts drawn closely around them though outside the arbitrary boundaries. The figures obtained for these population units strikingly alter the ranks of the cities.

Boston District Fourth: Boston City Seventh

The first three places are held by New York, Chicago and Philadelphia under both systems of enumeration. But while Boston, the political division, ranks seventh and Detroit fourth, the Boston metropolitan district jumps to fourth place and the Detroit metropolitan district takes the sixth position. The population figures show that with a rough "circle" drawn from the center of Boston with a radius of between ten and fifteen miles there are in thickly settled communities 1,772,254 inhabitants.

In a similar "circle" drawn around Detroit in United States territory there are 1,165,153 inhabitants. If the entire population of Wayne County in which Detroit is situated were counted in the Detroit District and if the populations of the four counties grouped around Wayne County were added the population would still be less than 1,400,000 though the average radius would then be increased to nearly 30 miles. The increase of the radius around Boston to 25 to 30 miles would bring into the district between 2,000,000 and 2,500,000 inhab-

UMI

Has Large American Colony

"The American residents number about four hundred, the largest colony between Rome and Manila. There is but little social life and the only places of amusement are the cafes and restaurants, with their adjoining cabarets and moving picture screens.

"While the Galata bridge between the European quarter and Stamboul still lives up to its tradition of having every nationality in the world cross it at least once an hour, it lacks some of its old charm because of the Turkish people's renunciation of color. The men for the most part have adopted the European business suit, with which they wear a red fez, and the women's costumes are usually of black. With this change, the human rainbow that once confused the eye has lost much of its brilliancy.

"What the Rialto bridge is to Venice, the Pont Neuf to Paris, the Westminster to London, so is the Galata bridge to Constantinople—the keynote to the city.

A Panorama of Human Types

"A constant stream of polyglot peoples flows across the Golden Horn: Russian refugees, in pajama coats tucked into trousers grown too large; Armenian and Greek merchants and refugees; British, French, and Italian army and navy officers; American sailors; Chinese, Japanese, and Persian merchants; dervishes in brown, with cone-shaped hats; Cretans in baggy trousers and embroidered vests; Greek priests with black chiffon veils streaming from their hats; hamals (porters) with roomfuls of furniture on their backs; Arabs in yellow burnouses; maimed and diseased beggars; Mohammedan mullahs in pink or green robes; black troops in red caps and sashes; Jewish guides; American relief workers; Hindustani guards in twisted turbans and scarlet capes; an occasional woman gypsy in baggy trousers; Levantine tradesmen; Albanian peasants in embroidered white leggings; Hawaiians, Filipinos, and a few drummers from 'points west of Chicago'—all these pass back and forth in the course of a day.

"On both sides of the bridge are docks for small steamers that take commuters back and forth between the Golden Horn and Scutari, the fifteen stations of the Bosporus, and the Princess Islands. At rush hours these efficiently operated boats are as packed as a New York ferry.

"Many of the commuters are the prosperous Greeks and Turks, who maintain summer homes for their families on the Princess Islands, an hour or more away."

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Bucharest: Paris of the East

TWICE Bucharest has attracted world attention recently, both as the culmination of a royal coronation and as the city which rumor says is inadequate to house a much enlarged nation's official business. Fogaras, a picturesque town on the Alt, almost hidden at the foot of some of that country's highest peaks, was suggested as a candidate for the seat of Rumanian government.

The new Rumania bears somewhat the same relation to the pre-war land that the forty-eight States do to the United States of a century ago. With the sudden increase in the size of the country has come the argument that Bucharest, situated near the southern frontier in the midst of the black-earth belt which makes Rumania a granary, and just south of the great oil-fields which supply the major portion of the exports, is not centrally located.

Capital Open to Attack

But there is another reason for the proposed change. During the late war, the ancient forts which once guarded Bucharest from attack proved useless; and, situated as it is in a wide monotonous plain the present capital lies exposed to any foe. Not a few Rumanians remember that, for many months, what there was of Rumania functioned from Jassy. Fogaras could be made almost impregnable, except from the air.

The main reason, however, is geographical. The water-supply of Bucharest is inadequate, the city site is exposed to the biting winter winds that sweep down from Siberia, and the Rumanians, who pride themselves on their taste for the artistic, find themselves with an outgrown and out of date city on their hands and so are considering the idea of deserting the Paris of the Balkans for the mountain town in the Carpathians.

Walled Town Without the Wall

Bucharest is a walled town, without the wall. Crowded, as was the custom when city walls were the main defense, Bucharest drops away from the glitter of Calea Victoriei and the Boulevards to the run-down Orientalism of the outer sections and then abruptly to the empty, dusty plain. Its population has more than doubled in the last decade and houses, as elsewhere in Eastern Europe, are at a premium. It requires influence, persistence and bribery to get into one of the few hotels, the main attractions of which are the dining rooms, often open to the sky.

Surrounded as it is by rich farming country, Bucharest has not lacked for food, and the restaurants are well filled at all times. The Rumanian loves the uniform, and high heels on soft laced boots like those of the French aviators suit the fancy of the young dandies whose perfumed moustaches preserve their dignity by reaching straight out instead of turning up at the ends. The women are chic.

Feminine fashions run the gamut from such beautiful peasant costumes as

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Photograph by Kadel and Herbert.
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FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, LOOKING NORTH FROM FORTY-SECOND STREET

itants for the eastern end of Massachusetts is one of the most thickly populated regions in the United States.

Pittsburgh District Ranks Fifth

Like Boston, Pittsburgh suffers in a comparison of the population of cities by the fact that the official city boundaries enclose a relatively small area while immediately outside are numerous populous regions. When the figures for the Pittsburgh metropolitan district are used instead of the figures for the political division Pittsburgh rises from ninth to fifth place among the urban communities of the United States. Its metropolitan district has a population of 1,207,504, but within the imaginary line of the city boundaries are less than half that number of inhabitants.

The magnitude of the omission of urban territory and populations from some of the cities in thickly settled portions of the country are brought out by canvasses of the sizable cities and towns, left to be separately organized, which cluster just outside the city limits.

Within ten or fifteen miles of Boston are three cities with populations between 90,000 and 110,000; six cities of between 40,000 and 90,000; twelve cities and towns of between 15,000 and 40,000; eight of between 10,000 and 15,000, and a large number of communities under 10,000 population.

Pittsburgh's metropolitan district contains in addition to Pittsburgh itself 11 communities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 50,000, and 31 with populations between 5,000 and 10,000.

Within the Detroit metropolitan district not included in the Detroit City limits are three towns and villages with populations between 10,000 and 50,000 and three numbering between 5,000 and 10,000 inhabitants.

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Sokols Fostered Czech "Spirit of '76"

ALL that the fall football and track athletic season means to the American schoolboy the Sokol means to Czechoslovakia—and much more.

The coming of a delegation of Sokol Gymnastic Societies from the "Yankee Land of Europe" to the United States had a deeper interest than that attaching to an international athletic event. Europe's newborn republic sent to the far older republic of the New World a representation from an organization which had much to do with keeping alive a national spirit against the day when she seized her opportunity for independence.

The delegation of Sokols from Czechoslovakia returned the visit made by many American Sokols who went to Prague in 1920, each of them bearing food drafts so that their presence in Prague would not be more of an embarrassment than a help. A group of American Sokols met at the castle crowned hill where the March and the Danube unite and there draped Old Glory over a Millennial Monument, which was erected by the Magyars to commemorate the establishment of the Hungarian state by Stephen the First in 997.

Reveille to National Spirit

The founding of the Sokol organization in Bohemia was the sounding of the reveille to a slumbering nation. Czech nationality in 1862 was somnolent. Even friends of the Hussite people despaired of its regaining its sense of freedom. The enemies of the race which produced Comenius openly sneered at the low estate to which the once proud nation had fallen.

Then came Miroslav Tyrs and Jindrich Fugner, who conceived as a means of awakening their race the establishment of an organization which would escape the antagonism of the Hapsburg oppressors while cementing the people into a unit by training them in discipline and organization.

The Sokols, or falcons, derive their name from a Slav legend in which that bird typifies a spirited and courageous youth. The organization is Slavic in conception and it has so far aided in energizing successive Slavic groups.

Forged "Kerensky Offensive"

It was the Czech Sokol spirit which united the thousands of Bohemian war prisoners in Russia and, when the permission from Kerensky came, forced them into the army which formed the spear point of the "Kerensky offensive" in the summer of 1917. It was the Sokol spirit which actuated thousands of men in western Russia, who could almost see their native hills, to set out on the most marvelous anabasis the World War has known, an adventure which culminated in the capture of huge tracts of Siberia, and the return of the veterans in American transports from Vladivostok to Trieste.

The Sokolovna, or Sokol hall, is not only the gymnasium for the men and women of Czechoslovakia but is also the social and cultural center of the city or village. It has been through more than half a century of awakening nationalism the hearthstone to which the Czech Lares and Penates have been gathered.

UMI

few lands can equal, such native dress as Carmen Sylva loves, to severely plain black gowns, relieved only by the touch of light on patent leather and silk or the tiny aigrette in a jaunty hat. The women of Bucharest are its chief charm.

No Zoning Laws There

The few fine buildings are mixed in with unassuming structures which would never be at home in Paris or Berlin, and opposite the imposing War College Tzigano women may be working at a noisy power saw which is reducing crooked poles to fire-wood. The few main streets are lined with modern buildings and new residence avenues are stretching out toward the periphery of the circular city ; but in the crowded center of the town the confusing litter of tiny streets and alleys reminds one of a rabbit warren.

If the prohibitive cost of building a Bucharest worthy of the enlarged state forces it to build an entirely new capital at Fogaras, it will be necessary to carry the center of government across the crest of the Transylvanian Alps into land which until recently was under Magyar rule. Fogaras is a lovely site, amply provided with good drinking water. But Bucharest is now one terminal of a great European air route and it may be that time will eliminate the mountain town from consideration and that Bucharest will get busy on a better water-supply, the Rumanians will ignore the strategic importance of mountain peaks as a means of modern defense, and will build enough houses and public buildings to make Bucharest well deserve the title which it has so long held.

Bulletin No. 4, November 6, 1922.

Becomes National Festival

The seventh Sokol Festival was held in Prague. Coming at a time when the new nations of Europe were still dazed with self-government, it did more than any other thing to unite the people of one country and to reveal to them the spectacle of a nation's people cooperating in a tribute to the very nationality which their cooperation was strengthening. Sokols were brought from the most remote districts. Children who had long heard of their capital but who had never seen Golden Prague spent a week in visiting the places rich in historical and national interest. The railways were given such a test as war itself would not impose upon them. Hundreds of thousands of newly enfranchised citizens had the privilege of paying personal tribute to their newly elected chief, President Masaryk.

The organization which was instituted under a hostile government to foster the physical and spiritual forces that make for manliness, simultaneously forged the natonal forces which make for freedom. Freedom having been secured, the same organization operates in strengthening the bonds that unite the new Czech state.

Bulletin No. 5, November 5, 1922.

CHILDREN OF PILSEN (PLZEN): CZECHOSLOVAKIA

"Plzen" was always Czech for "Pilsen," but now that independence has come to the Czechs, they see no reason why the German language should retain a monopoly of their geographic nomenclature.

Many of this new republic's cities and rivers are known to American readers solely by their German names. But the Czechs are anxious to have the world know their towns by their geographical "maiden names," so all official Czechoslovak maps published in the home country designate Prague as Praha, Pressburg as Bratislava, Brunn as Brno, Marienbad as Marianske Lazne, Karlsbad as Karlovy Vary, Ungvar as Uzhorod, and Pilsen as Plzen. Even the familiar province name of Ruthenia becomes the difficult Podkarpatska Rus. (See "Index to the New Map of Europe," published by the National Geographic Society.)